

THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

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Can anyone replace Mr. Tillman?



A rare find on the Hill - a picture of Mr. Jamie Tillman, who usually is behind the camera, not in front of it. What is not rare, however, is the heart-warming smile he displays - it is one of a kind, and yet a common sight around MBA.

By Daniel Mace
Features Writer

A quick scan of the cluttered office tucked behind the main office in the Ball Building gives the impression that Jamie Tillman is quite a busy man. One wall holds a bookshelf of various Algebra textbooks and portraits of historic mathematicians. Another is adorned with pictures of children and grandchildren.

The desk itself is completely covered in handwritten sticky notes and official forms, with a heavy digital camera laid atop it all. In the thirty-minute interview alone, the computer interrupts our conversation with the sharp ping of an email at least five times.

Mr. Tillman recently announced that

he will be stepping down from his current position and focusing instead on teaching and counseling.

At press time, MBA has appointed a committee of faculty to select his replacement. While the man chosen for the job may be qualified, many wonder if any newcomer can match the tireless effort, compassion, and eccentricities that make up Mr. Tillman.

Mr. Tillman has often been described as the busiest man on MBA's campus, and few could disagree. Regularly, the light from his office shines long after the buildings have been locked up for the night, and he's one of the first teachers on MBA's campus in the morning as well.

His official title at MBA reads Director of the High School, but his duties reach well beyond that. He teaches two College

Algebra classes, photographs MBA events, and holds the more intangible role of "go-to guy" for most unanswered questions.

Mr. Tillman began his career at MBA back in 1966 as a teacher, coach, and academic administrator. After being offered a job by his father-in-law, Mr. Tillman left MBA to work in the family business. After eleven years he left his position and opened a sporting goods store in Nashville that he eventually sold to take an administrative job at Belmont University. Finally, in 1996 Mr. Tillman returned to MBA in an effort to resume his greatest love, teaching.

Since then, first as Athletic Director and now as Head of the Upper School, Mr. Tillman has been a staple of life at MBA.

>> TILLMAN, P4



Bonnaroo 2011: expect great things

By Tom Markham
Entertainment Editor

So, the complete artist lineup for the 2011 Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, Tennessee, has just recently been announced. The first question I ask you is, "Where do I begin?"

Some have complained that there aren't enough "heavy hitters" and that the lineup doesn't quite match up to last year's glorious spread. If I may be frank, those who complain are wrong. I'm going to break down the lineup for this year's 'Roo and explain to you briefly why we music lovers should be totally stoked.

First, let's take a look at the headliners. The big names this year are Eminem, Arcade Fire, Widespread Panic, Buffalo Springfield, The Strokes, My Morning Jacket, and the Black Keys. How can you not love this lineup? It offers a little bit of something for all musical types, not to mention some serious star power.

Eminem's new album, which some argue is his best yet, *Recovery*, has had a monstrous year. It made a strong case for Album of the Year, losing only to Arcade Fire.

This brings up my next point: ARCADE FIRE. Some have compared these loveable Canadians to this generation's Beatles. Others have likened them to Bruce Springsteen. Regardless, Arcade Fire has put the entertainer's edge back into Pop Music. Their unbelievable musicianship combined with their breathtakingly energetic live shows makes for a religious experience for the audience member. Even

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THE BELL RINGER

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Wikileaks blows ignoble whistle

By Ryan Hill
Features Editor

As informed individuals, we take for granted many things that evade our senses. We know that there are billions of galaxies beyond our blue skies and starry nights, though we cannot reach them. We know that every day, countless electrical signals pulse through our brain, though we cannot feel them. Though we cannot see the air that fills our lungs, we do not mind its invisibility as we happily continue breathing.

In July of 2010 a man named Julian Assange exposed the air to the eyes of the world. In this era of globalization, he unearthed the roots of communication that hold together an expanding but delicate network of interdependent nations.

Using a website called Wikileaks that he created in 2006, this tech-savvy Australian has publicized over 400,000 classified American files, ranging from diplomatic cables to records of our Afghan and Iraqi battlefronts.

Preceding the formal release of this stolen information—believed to have been initially leaked by



Assange, with apparent anti-American motives, may have expected to serve a crushing blow to the United States' accountability. The leaks seem to have had no such effect.

Photo courtesy of Google Images.

a disillusioned Army private named Bradley Manning—Assange shared his trove with *The New York Times*, Great Britain's *The Guardian*, and Germany's *Der Spiegel*. On July 25th, 2010, the first wave of documents on the war in Afghanistan splashed into public domain online and across the headlines of news organizations around the world.

While Assange, who is openly

anti-American, may have anticipated a crushing blow to our nation's accountability and confidentiality through his whistle-blowing, the Wikileaks saga seems to have had no such effect.

It is no secret that the United States sends thousands of diplomats to countries around the world and that our nation has waged a war on terror in the Middle East over the past decade.

>> LEAKS, P9

Health care: sounding a global alarm

By Karthik Sastry
News Editor

Over the last year, "health-care" has become one of the biggest buzzwords in the United States. But for all the talk about deficits and death panels, we may be ignoring an even bigger consequence: the enormous burden placed on the developing world. As we attempt to accommodate an estimated 32 million currently uninsured Americans into our own health system, we will inadvertently cause the migration of tens of thousands of physicians and nurses to the United States. In short, unprecedented reform means unprecedented brain drain and a potential health care deficit for citizens of the developing world.

The United States healthcare system already depends on international graduates, especially to serve citizens in rural, unintegrated areas. A survey published in *Health Affairs* estimates that over one-quarter of all practitioners in the United States are educated abroad. Many of them hail from countries with acute doctor shortages. According to data from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, 34% of physicians who immigrated to the United States in 2009 were from countries identified by the World Health Organization as particularly at risk.

The problem will continue to grow. A rapidly aging U.S.

population will need at least 40 percent more primary care providers by 2020, according to a study by the U.S. Bureau of Health Professions and the Association of American Medical Colleges; the recent health care legislation will only accelerate that trend. The supply of locally-trained doctors and nurses will not be able to keep up the pace without a steady influx of internationally-trained physicians to make up the difference.

A comprehensive solution is less obvious. Many have suggested that the best option would be to reduce the size of the American healthcare industry altogether. This strategy of "tightening the belt," however, would be difficult to implement and fraught with political peril.

In lieu of sweeping changes, we need to adjust the specific parts of the system that cause global "brain drain." One possibility would be to enhance enrollment in our own medical education system; to this end, the Affordable Care Act allocates \$168 million to increase the number of U.S. residency positions.

But this measure does not address the root causes of the problem. At the present moment, America's medical and nursing schools just do not have enough facilities to train all the young physicians and nurses that this country needs to be self-sufficient. It is useless to create residency positions when there are no American graduates to fill them—a better approach would be to create more medi-

cal schools.

At the same time, we also need to address the supply side of the equation. Medical training in developing nations is often hopelessly detached from the actual problems that exist on the ground. Curriculum requirements, under the guise of "international standards," often prepare young doctors for advanced technologies and techniques that are far too expensive to implement in most hospitals.

Furthermore, in today's connected world, everyone is well aware of the high levels of compensation in the U.S. medical field. Thus, it is only natural that emigration to America, the leader of cutting-edge research, becomes the ultimate goal of any student.

In collaboration with foreign governments, the U.S. needs to help establish a more localized approach to health care in developing countries. If physicians migrate to the U.S., then adequate compensation has to be provided such that developing nations do not suffer unfairly. It is not appropriate to categorize all global health fund expenses as charity when there is a two-way movement of goods and resources. Healthcare can be a benign way by which the U.S. can assert its leadership on the world stage—it would benefit all parties involved.

Clearly, a change is needed. Unless we alter our current trajectory, we will continue to risk the health of the world's most needy citizens... and that is an outcome that the United States should not allow.

Seniors soar into spring

By John Wyse
Staff Writer

The 1992 National League Championship Series Game 7, played on October 14, 1992 at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium in Atlanta, was the last game of the 1992 National League Championship Series between the Atlanta Braves and Pittsburgh Pirates. Atlanta's dramatic three-run rally in the bottom of the ninth won the game and the National League pennant for the Braves. On that same day, far, far away, a young child by the name of **Alex Hunt** was born. Known to his close friends as "El Lick," he went on to become one of the favorites among the boys of the MBA class of 2011.

After my last article, **Alex** complained to me that he was not getting enough of the prestigious class news spotlight, so I agreed to give him a little bit extra this time. No hard feelings, other seniors.

Alex "lives every day like it's chicken patty day." He put his brother George's face in a blender on Christmas Day this year. His favorite Xbox game at the moment is NBA 2k11. On a scale of 1-10, he gives his determination to get into college a 1.5. He recently bought his girlfriend **Emily** a bracelet and a shakeweight. Speaking of



Cody Fisher: all that is man. Photo courtesy of Madison Longmire.

bracelets, he promises great things from the upcoming "Mason and Elic go to Arizona" movie, which features **Aubrey Witherington**. He wants to be remembered as a two-time flag football champ. Solemnly, he ended our conversation by informing me that "a #2 pencil and a dream can take you anywhere." If you want to get to know him better, his screen name is ash41092. Thanks, Alex!!!

Athletic dominance has been contagious among seniors of late. **Warren Smith**, **Walter Macey**, **Ben Charpentier**, and **Partha Reddy** helped CPC claim the churchball championship. Partha did his best **Dwight Howard** impression by putting up 34 points, 34 boards, 34 blocks, and 34 assists in 34 seconds of playing time. Seniors **Ben Crook**, **Joe Riegle**, **Clay Garrett**, **Clay Adams**, **Alex Austin**, and one other kid claimed the student council flag football championship under the alias RIP 9. Their real name is far too inappropriate for the paper. Team 75 Cent consisting of **Partha Reddy**, **Jack Keller**, **Patrick Duffey**, **Lane Bullock**, **Christopher McClure**, and **Nick Bessette** won the Harpeth Hall dodgeball tourney to benefit Invisible Children. They won one Republic tickets but more importantly triumphed over the far less classy "Team OFWGKTA" of Ensworth. Get 'em, Red.

Andrei "Big n Tasty" Lucaci is training for track season by "finding huge rocks and chucking them into the ocean." He hopes his rocks awaken mystifyingly beautiful mermaids with whom he may fall in love. Equally as likely to work with the ladies is **Christian Alford**'s new wardrobe of boy's "Affliction" tees. He declined to reveal the whereabouts of his next underground street fight, but he says training is going well.

With Spring Break almost here, many seniors have high hopes for their vacations. **Van East** will be going to Santa Rosa with a bunch of guys. He just got his cast off, so he's ready to show off his huge arms, which he calls "Barbara Streisand" and "Coolio." Van is hoping to find himself a prom date while at the beach... Wow. **Ryan Hill** has been working on his SB6P every day. Others are headed to the Caymans, Seaside, and Jamaica. **Mason Foote** is just trying to make it out alive.

Mojahnson informed that the Ultimate Frisbee team has a new mascot that he christened "**Raymon**." He is simply a large fist. MJ also mentioned that he hates **Will**. Go, black bears! The latest and greatest MBA production, *The Three Muskateers*,



Tune in every Friday night to *The Mason and Elic Show*, the first tv show to ever win, as Alex says, "six Oscars!" Photo courtesy of Mason and Elic, inc.

featured seniors **Philip Daniele**, **Andrew Wright**, **Will Lee**, and **Daniel "D-Run" Rundberg**.

It is unknown whether **Clay Garrett** obtained mono from **Philip Spelman**, a known Siberian, or a human of any kind. **Chase Lovelace** and **D Mac** can't get enough of the O.C. **Ben Coode** signed to play football at Auburn next year. Congrats, Ben! **Clay McDonald** loves dubstep. **Tom Markham** isn't a morning person, but it's

OK because he also hates coffee. **Marc Giguere** has changed his legal residence to Bongo Java. **Bradley Worthington** is now available in three different varieties: cuddly, classy, or suave. **Ford Emerson** mumbled something incoherent.

Finally, a word from our favorite poet: "Sweet dreams of passion and decision / Hearts full of temptation / Eyes filled with concentration / Feelings of confusion" -smh. Secret message: DJOE <R UPIT TFD.



Young Love at its finest. Oh, how will she choose between DMac and Chase! Photo courtesy of FOX, and graphic by John Wyse.



Congratulations to the twelve newly-tapped members of Totomoi!

Cody Fisher, Mr. Matt Dobson, Mr. Bill Compton, Bryan Oslin
Warren Smith, Carter Callaway, Van East, Joe Scherrer
John Wyse, Tom Markham, Rob Edwards, Karthik Sastry

Springtime excites juniors

By Scott Dalton
Staff Writer

"Bros, chicks, beaches, and Frisbees...but mostly bros" is the typical response you might hear when asking a member of the prestigious class of 2012 about the upcoming prospect of Spring Break.

Dubbed by NASCAR driving power-duo and red-necks extraordinaire **Jack Whitson** and **Daniel "Fandango" Mace**, SBX+1 is sure to be a killer (in a good way, like the whale, not like the homicidal criminal on *Family Watchdog*.)

If you really want to know where to be or what to do, just ask **Will Narramore**. He may or may not tell you, depending on the current status of his headgear.

Matthew Davidson was caught filling out an "official college visit" form the other day in which he proceeded to mark out the total number of days he would miss and replace it with "catch me if you can." **John Mitchell** wrote something of the same and immediately took off running. **Juantanomo Bay** was caught 3 hours later on the Far East side of campus, plus or minus 30 meters from where he began.

>> TILLMAN FROM P1



Mr. Tillman is simply irreplaceable

From finding lost backpacks to helping keep the lunchroom clean, from arranging the Fall Carnival to instituting leadership workshops, Mr. Tillman's influence at MBA is seen daily. Throughout his time as head of the high school, he has taken on so many responsibilities that it will be hard to find just one man to take his place next year.

However, Mr. Tillman admits that as much as he has loved his position, he feels ready for a change. So much administrative responsibility has made it difficult for him to focus on teaching and his growing family. While he is to remain on MBA's campus as both a teacher and counselor next year, Mr. Tillman will certainly be missed as head of the high school.

Whoever is appointed to take Mr. Tillman's position for the upcoming year will certainly have large shoes to fill. Mr. Tillman has provided encouragement, respect, and humor for the students, for the teachers, and for his countless endeavors during his time as head of the high school. While Mr. Tillman himself has absolute faith in whoever succeeds him, the rest of us know it will take quite a man to follow in the footsteps of Jamie Tillman.

Preston Evans' beard has been of epic proportions ever since No-Shave September, October, November, December, January, and February. From this point on, refer to his scruff as "the good stuff." However, I cannot take full credit for this glorious nickname, as seeing **Gray Curtis** finally beat **Karthik Sastry** in a game of chess created the Inception that resulted in the idea. It was indeed a dream within a dream.

Preston Palm recently got his pilot's license and will now be able to respond to the Palm Tree call (similar to the Bat-Signal). Simply talk about some sort of woodwind instrument, and **Preston** should be on his way (not to be confused with "the good stuff"). **Brandon Sauermann** insists on having one of the most awkward last names to spell because it gives him a sense



John Mark Bellet and Warren Lipscomb seem to have gotten themselves into a bit of a tangle.



This team of dodgeballers is all smiles before Clay Sullivan dropped the ball (and the win) in a dog-eat-dog game of rock paper scissors.

of individuality and accomplishment for which we strive here at MBA.

Hats off to **Adam Hobbs** for going beast mode on this whole prom thing. **Adam Hobbs**: doing all the fundraising work for the Class of 2012 since 1993. And, yes, I skipped over **J-Mac** for a reason. Just so everyone knows, things are still awkward between **Daniel Bellet** and me ever since he put a small rip in my white dress shirt I got for Christmas sophomore year. **Daniel** actually kept it for a year and informed me he had it while I was relieving myself in the bathroom at Homecoming. I have yet to figure out how that would have softened the news.

Last week I made **David Arteaga** cry, and I have still yet to regret my decision to call Harvard and tell them that **David** was "mediocre, at best." Speaking of mediocre, **John Mark Bellet**, **DP**, and **Rett Hooper** have a secret handshake that you can't see, so don't ask about it, especially you, **Casey Ortale**. Last week, **Aaron Simonis** beat every single computer game from my childhood on his laptop before 7th period. In corollary, it is still under scrutiny as to how **Ford Saunders'** celeb-look-a-like, **Pablo Sanchez**, is not considered a professional

player in all Backyard Sports.

I said "hi" to **Harris Elledge** last week, and he curb stomped my head.

Dobbs Richards recently discovered the "poke" feature on Facebook. He has yet to have been told that that feature is only used specifically for junior schoolers, who are too nervous to talk to a girl outside of the internet. Doesn't bode well for someone...

Will Davies asked me if he could be my Valentine. I was not okay with it only because he did it over text message. I referred him to **Tanner Yancey** instead. **The Logan Standard** is actually a daily newspaper, but **Harry Woosley** wouldn't know that because he is too busy missing school to cough up blood. **Gray Jones** has my respect for taking SBX+1 to reunite with his original family of sea turtles.

Be safe on SBX+1 boys, because we all know what can happen if you don't wear sunscreen and a long-sleeved, Underarmor shirt with UV ray protection. Also, don't forget to wear your sandals with black socks and baggy shorts because we all know the chicks love that.

Happy trails, and Happy St. Paddy's day. And, please, don't you leave, until you see me.

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Sophomores maximize miscellania

By McLean Hudson
Staff Sophomore

There is no best way to introduce such a variety of people and doings. So, let's just start.

Will McFadden went down a black diamond while skiing a few weeks back and did not die. So, congrats to him. **Gray Bryant** broke his back during baseball and is apparently out for life, and **Robert Papel** reports that **Paul "MP" Moore** has blown **Bmoney** away with his raps. **George Swenson's** shirt is blinding, and **Pig Rieke** does not wish to be bugged.

Vince Panvini was pleased with how well the play went, **Lucas Littlejohn** fist bumped a grizzly bear, and **Chris Briggs** reports that we are all upstanding citizens and are in no way involved in anything shady. **Taylor Groom** really likes applejacks. **Jack Emerson's** best friend is hungry, and **William Yang** reportedly finished his research paper along with the rest of this semester's homework sometime in mid-February.

Mohammad Azamtarrhian accidentally took two showers during February, throwing off his shower quota for the whole year. He has decided to forgo all kinds of washing during the month of March to get things back on track. **Andy Seay** is loving all the new tennis gear, **Mitchell Flautt** is losing in Mark Lowe Polo, **Hayden Deakins** ♥s **Adam Bowman**, and **Alan Liang** is boring.

Jack Benton has been openly dishonest with **Ms. Aston** and takes great pleasure in playing with sponges behind her back. **Brandon "King" Key** was shocked to learn they started the NFL Combine without him, and **Tom Bu** is drawing closer to official BAMF status. **Chris Duffey** can now be added to the list of people (along with most



"Where's Waldo" on a Hill...Can you find the Bu? Photo courtesy of Mr. J. Tillman.

of Harpeth Hall) who have been randomly chatted by **Mr. McKee**.

John Garrett finished his research paper outline on Tuesday and was very proud of himself until he was told the actual paper was due in two days. **Tate Ramsden** just wants to swim fast and says "state was fun." **Andrew Dobbs** learned how to dance like **Bernie**. When **Marcus Riley** attempted said dance, it appeared he had lost his groove, but it turned out that **Mr. Tarkington** had borrowed it. *Fallice*.

Mattison Asher is tired, **Ryan Owen** is very good friends with **McKay Proctor** (and his sister), and **Nicholas Green** replaced his cowboy boots with "funky blue shoes." **Sam Turner** and **Patrick Moody** are building a rocket with **Jake Simon's** brothers. **John Powell** says "hey!" and **Furman** and **BI Haynes** are movie stars.

Clint Smith is faring better than I in math right now. Barely.

In **Bieber-related** news, **Ryan Pot-**

ter went to the premier of the new movie, "Never Say Never" by himself. Little did he know, **Wilson Johnson** was only a few rows behind him, also alone. **Connor Murphy** is living life.

Now, because no one gave me anything for this issue, we're on to everyone's worst favorite segment: Facebook stalking...**Jody Gorham** is now socially aware, **Andrew Karpos** is good at guessing stuff, **Millwee** made a self-portrait, and **Barry Goldsmith** is making "Team Barry" t-shirts. **Clint Smith** has new friends, I said something about a shoe, and **Colin Caldwell** commented on and/or liked 12 links/comments/pictures in a row. **Connor Griffin** shall now be referred to scissor diction, as he is here to snip some words...**Kamani "iBall" Hodges** says, and I quote, "hahah, bruh, its coo doe its ova!!!" And most importantly, **Mark Lowe** is 16.

Now, back to normal news no one cares about: **Sal Neglia** is looking forward to

another season of smiling with **Coach P** and throwing his glove in the trash. **Sal** also won some more chess matches in competition.

Jack Rhodes says "Go dores" and asked me to tell everyone that he is getting really close to his goal of 225 in bench, so everyone should give him words of encouragement when they see him.

Sam Waitt is looking forward to golf next year, and **Jackson Flora** enjoys his alone time with **Sloane Baxter** and **Hallie Aston** in the Kroger parking lot. Unfortunately, **J-Flo** can't hang out anymore because **Mama Flora** doesn't approve of his grades. **Parrish Preston** announces, chika-dee-dee-dee-dee-DEE. **Nathan Fouts** and **Jake Simons** introduced **Jack Benton** to their friend **Sarah**, and they hit it off immediately. **Chris Habermann** got a haircut (kind of).

Kevin Wang could not be reached for comment about his alleged involvement in the WikiLeaks scandal, so everyone ask him about why he hates his country. **Jake Macey** caught his first wild ditto at level 88, beating anything **Mark Lowe** has ever done in btd4 expansion.

Landon Bullock is venturing to the D.R. for spring break to see if he can discover his roots. Try a couple countries over, bud. **Adam Bowman** reports that the research paper is taking over his life, leaving little time to work on his second particle accelerator. Bummer.

Hayden Deakins was recently attacked by **Broseidon**, who is apparently not very bro at all. Don't worry though, **Zheng He** saved him. In related news, it was recently reported that **Mr. He** has a Facebook, so if you have ever even talked to **Mr. Herring**, you should friend him. **Tommy Douglas** has yet to return something white, large, and very warm to its original owner. I was told **Will Cambell** shaved, but I doubt it.

SBXI approaches. Conduct yourselves in the weight room accordingly.



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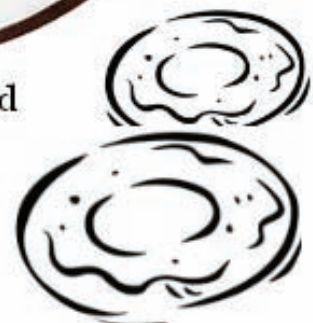
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Herr Sawyer leaves MBA for graduate school

By Sam Weien
Staff News Writer

As March opens, many seniors are deciding which colleges they would like to attend, and many juniors are beginning to think about college options. However, as some students are about to leave behind their old teachers, one teacher, Herr Jonathan Sawyer, has decided to leave, having decided to return to school himself.

So, *The Bell Ringer* sat down with our German teacher to discuss his return to school and his options in the future.

Bell Ringer: Where are you going?

Herr Sawyer: Vanderbilt's Peabody College of Education. I am getting my Masters degree in education.

BR: Are you leaving teaching for good?

HS: No. I feel that no matter where I go, I will always be a teacher. Working in education is where I belong.

BR: What are you going to study at school?

HS: I am getting my Masters degree in Education. I will be studying effective leadership, conflict resolution, talent



MBA's German program is strong, but it will moan the departure of Herr Sawyer.

management, effective organization, team building, and advancing a mission. The main focus is on people, in terms of organization and teamwork. Hopefully, this will prepare me for an administrative position.

BR: What do you plan for the future?

HS: I will take a two-year program full time. I plan to take what I have learned about leadership and organization and, then,

return to a school environment in some capacity.

BR: Do you plan to stay in Nashville?

HS: It depends on the job market. I love Nashville! It offers an exciting academic scene.

BR: Will you try to find a field that includes German?

HS: That I do not necessarily know.

It has always been a big part of my life. Ideally, yes.

BR: Do you expect your replacement to carry on with the Sister Cities Program?

HS: Very much so. It is a very strong partnership, and he or she will continue to build the partnership in Wiesbaden.

BR: What did you most enjoy about teaching at MBA?

HS: Having the privilege to work with such engaged, fine young men, and watching them grow from no knowledge to being proud of knowing a second language. Also, it was wonderful working with such a collegial, professional faculty. The sharing and mentoring of each other was great, too. We all help each other to grow and get better.

BR: Do you plan to return to our campus at some time?

HS: Definitely! I will be available for email, and I will just be down the street. I will continue to be a mentor to any students who wish to remain in contact.

BR: Do you think your replacement will do things much differently?

HS: The program is in a good place right now, with strong enrollment. We have strong National German Exam scores, AP scores, and motivated students.

English department goes into book writing

By John Mellow
Staff News Writer

I vaguely remember a Big Red Rule Book which taught me grammar in the seventh grade, although I've come to find that half-repressed memories of the Junior School tend to be faulty. Nonetheless, I'm pretty sure that such a thing existed.

Capitalizing on the opportunity to

set its own curriculum with professional precision, the English Department intends to expand upon this idea and create its own textbook for English II next school year.

Like the Big Red Rule Book, this textbook will allow English teachers to teach from many sources conveniently compiled together, while still having complete control over the curriculum.

The textbook will contain several

texts from the Public Domain (anything published before 1925). In addition, anthologies of poetry and short stories will be printed for the Junior School and English I.

These textbooks and anthologies will be created through a division of the Ingram Book Group called Lightning Source, which professionally prints whatever a client requests, a process which is easy and reasonably priced.

Better yet, next year, having many texts bound together will allow for much more organization and fewer lost books and runs to the printer before English class because of a forgotten poetry packet.

Although my recollections of the Big Red Rule Book may be hazy at best, this project has the potential to be a much more memorable and extremely helpful addition to many English courses.

Math giants strike again

Like the Hawk in its hunt, MBA mathletes are relentless in all competitions

By Davis Lovvorn
Staff Numbers Watcher

The Bell Ringer, in addition to interviewing math department chairman Mr. Golenor, is pleased to have Mr. Frantz, leader of the Math League team, provide us with the results of the Math League competition.

BR: Can you tell me about the AMC 10 and 12 results

MG: MBA participated in the annual AMC 10 and AMC 12 competitions. The Big Red Mathematical Giants performed extremely (Tid)well. With a huge (Tom Bu)st to their brain (Powell)er, our men will score high fo Sho(pe)!

BR: Can you tell me about the most recent breaking news and developing story gripping the country today - the new Wilson Math Grants?

MG: The Wilson family is very generous to provide a math summer course for MBA students, enrichment for strong MBA students focusing on real world mathematics careers.

BR: How did the recent Math League competition go?

KF: Mrs. Qian's mathletes are in the final quiz bowl round against MLK. In Algebra I, where we finished in 1st place, 7th-grader Tony Ding took first place for the 3rd time and had a perfect score of 100%. Michael Milam took 2nd place in his first ever math competition. In Algebra II, Kalyan Chadalavada and Tarun Mallipreddi scored well and secured the 1st place bid. In Statistics, Hunter Tidwell placed 1st, Adam Bowman placed 2nd, Kevin Wang placed 4th, and a three-way tie for 5th was held by Tom Bu, Bradley Long, and Alan Liang, allowing for a 1st-place finish. In Calculus, Stephen Bedard placed 2nd, securing a 2nd-place finish. Also, I would like to thank Mr. David Norton for driving the new, 40-passenger bus. A special thanks to Mr. Compton, Dr. Shackelford, and Mrs. Qian for attending these events and supporting the students.



Above: The recent campus visit by a Hawk inspired some students to start a petition to change MBA's motto to "Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete, Carnivore"

Right: Joe (rearing back to take a bite out of the competition) and Adam, two men very high up in the Nashville academic food chain, dominate Science Olympiad before victimizing the competition at the Interscholastic Math League.



MBAbroad: junior student charmed by Eton

By Paul Brazil

Staff Exchange Student

January 10, 2011 may hold a special place in the memories of the students and faculty of Montgomery Bell Academy because Mother Nature pulled through in a big way, by delaying the much-dreaded beginning of the third quarter with a dusting of snow.

That date is significant to me, however, because it marks the beginning of my journey to a distant, but not too foreign land, Great Britain. My final destination was Eton College, the almost mythical boys school which dates back to 1440. To put things into perspective, Columbus sailed the ocean blue in 1492, Harvard was founded in 1636, and our beloved MBA opened in 1867.

It is difficult for a visitor at Eton to forget the rich history of the school, mainly because of the dress code, which consists of a black tailcoat, black waistcoat, black pinstriped trousers (never call them pants), and a white shirt complete with a detachable collar which is always worn with a "tie", which is really a little white ribbon.

This uniform is supposedly the proper mourning attire, honoring some dead king or another. However, it has now become embedded in Eton life and, therefore, will probably remain for at least a couple hundred more years.

Another aspect of Eton that takes some adjustment is that of living in a boarding house with nearly fifty other young lads. Boarding life includes dining in the house thrice daily, and I can assure that you would sing praises to the wonders of Sage after experiencing English boarding house food for an extended period of time. Students are required to attend chapel each morning, only after a starch-filled breakfast.

Chapel services are held in College Chapel, which is the oldest and most ornate building in the entire campus, erected by Henry VI in 1440.

Despite multiple differences, many aspects of Eton remind me of MBA. For instance, there is great emphasis placed on the importance of being well-rounded (although I have not yet heard as clever a motto as "GSA. *In that order*") and theater, music, and athletics are a regular occurrence in the daily schedule of an Etonian, along with academia of course.

Perhaps the strangest and most interesting event that I have partaken, which is unique to Eton, is that of Field Game. Imagine, if you will, a sadistic and insane scientist/coach who somehow was able to breed the two sports of rugby and soccer. The malformed, archaic, and confusing offspring would be Field Game.

Field Game is the ancestor of modern soccer and was first played on the banks of the Thames just after the extinction of the dinosaurs. Only a handful of people in the entire school actually know every rule to Field Game. Most people, however, have a general idea. Even I, after an astounding number of penalties and a few hours of frustration and confusion, was able to loosely grasp the game.

I will make a brief attempt at describing the rules, but I must warn you that by doing so I am embarking on a nearly impossible task. The game begins with a bully or scrum, which engages just before a soccer ball is rolled into the knot of people. Once the ball is finally kicked out of the bully by one team or another, the rules of soccer begin, except that passing the ball is illegal. One scores by kicking a goal, as in ordinary soccer, or by bouncing a ball off a defender and out of bounds and then touching it before any of the opponents are able to. Any further explanation would only serve to

further confuse.

Although a large majority of my time has been spent at Eton while in England, school has by no means dominated my experience. I often venture into Windsor and go for a jaunt with friends in the shadow of Windsor castle, one of the many homes of the Queen.

Aside from these weekday adventures, each term students are allotted one "long leave", which lasts a week, and two "short leaves", which are the equivalent of a full weekend out of school. On such breaks I have had the pleasure of seeing the beautiful English countryside and have also spent time in London.

Some activities while in the country include a horseback ride through the countryside and visiting the Avebury stones. Although Stonehenge gets all of the publicity, the Avebury stone circle is both larger and older, dating back to the Neolithic period.

The quiet charm of the country was soothing, but I was eventually drawn into the bustle of London. London offers everything that one could desire, from art galleries to "historic pub crawls" and everything in between. The British Museum, which boasts the Rosetta Stone, a dozen or so mummies, multiple Roman busts, and an enormous library of historic, leather-bound books (and rich mahogany) especially caught my attention. Aside from the aggressive traffic driving on the wrong side of the road, London proved to be an inviting and extremely entertaining place.

I guess what I am trying to say is that if you like dubstep, eating sandwiches with a knife and fork, having an unfair advantage with the ladies due to your accent, and overcast weather, then come to England. I have formed some great friendships and have been treated extremely well by my classmates here at Eton. It has been a truly worthwhile experience, and I am extremely thankful to all who have made it possible for me.



The organ in College Chapel is an awe-inspiring sight.

All photos courtesy of Paul Brazil.



A side view of College Chapel.



Paul stands in College Yard in front of Henry VI.



Paul Brazil poses in front of one of the boulders in Avebury Stone Circle.

MBA Faculty looks to relax over spring break

By Joe Barry
Staff Writer

Spring Break is a magical time of the year when students get a whole week off from school. Perhaps the most common vacation is to head down to the beach, though it is closely followed in popularity by a ski trip.

Some people prefer to stay in town for the break while others may decide to better the world by traveling on mission trips. However, it is not just students that rejoice during this hiatus from school. Teachers also eagerly await this rest before the final 4th quarter push. So, asking around, I found out several faculty members' plans for Spring Break 2011.

Dr. Seay, as he often does for vacations, will be heading to his *villa rustica* in Lexington, Virginia, for a portion of the break. In his words, "It's time for spring cleaning, a little relaxation, and wonderful mountain trout."

Mr. Norton is leading several students on a mission trip down to the Dominican Republic, where twenty boys, four leaders, and one alumnus will construct a house for an impoverished family and a playground for the general community.

In addition to physical labor, they will have the chance to visit a leprosarium and provide company to lonely men and



Mr. Morrison likes to quote Samuel Johnson, saying, "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life."
Photo courtesy of Google Images.

women suffering from leprosy, a disease of the nervous system. Finally, students and adults will use athletic competitions to engage the poor but hopeful citizens around them. There is also a trip going to Costa Rica for the week.

Mr. Morrison is once again leading his famous London trip, one that enables its participants to fully immerse themselves in

the culture of another country. They will be touring many famous sites, attending plays, visiting art galleries, and trying a variety of British foods.

"The Spring Break trip to London is a highlight of the year for me as I get the opportunity to introduce the city I grew up in to students who are interested in the English culture," Mr. Morrison commented. He then



CPT Norton is leading a service trip to the Dominican Republic.

quoted Samuel Johnson, saying, "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life."

There are some teachers that won't be traveling this year, preferring instead to relax at home. Dr. Kinch plans on taking his son on his first camping trip as well as doing a little wood working with him. He also has "big reading plans" for the break.

Mr. Barclay will be staying in town and plans to spend the entire week with his daughter. He anticipates having a list of chores from his wife but looks forward to catching up on some rest at home.

Teachers and students alike are eagerly anticipating Spring Break this year before the final push toward summer.

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CCSC is also connected to MBA through former Varsity Rifle Coach, Leo Lujan, who is the Rifle Program Director at CCSC. In his 9 year tenure he has shown vast knowledge of shooting and has also brought along fantastic staff members who are past MBA students and rifle athletes. Due to Leo's hard work and dedication he has helped CCSC develop one of the top camp rifle programs in the country.

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Individual responsibility, must for campus network

Unblocked internet requires personal accountability to function

By McKay Proctor
Staff Writer

The MBA Student Handbook expressly forbids the use of the internet for non-academic purposes during the school day.

The majority of the student body lives outside the letter of this law at some time or another. The student who has not broken these rules exists as more of an enigma than those who break them daily.

We all hear the statistic that Youtube eats away at our bandwidth. Some among us even have memory of the Farmville epidemic of '09, when the number of people kicked out of the computer lab and demerits given for computer games reached record levels.

As the number of people who bring computers to school grows, it becomes important to resolve this issue of misuse. With this mindset, *The Bell Ringer* caught up with Headmaster Gioia regarding the internet, computers, and social media.

Bell Ringer: MBA students did without computers for more than 100 years, why is it necessary for them to have access to computers on campus?

Headmaster Gioia: I think that it would be pretty narrow-minded if you didn't accept that the incredible amount of information, both instantaneous and broad, on the web really has changed the platform of education. That doesn't mean that I don't believe that the relationship between the teacher and student has changed completely, but it is changing. When I taught 30 years ago, there wasn't a web in place. I could probably make the argument that it's vastly different. Now, I can instantaneously access information. My students can be very much

in control of information that they wouldn't have even seen before, and it probably creates a dynamic where the teacher can be a coach and team player and mentor in a way the internet allows. I think it would be foolish to strip the student of computers. I want to add that if teacher and student aren't focused on one another, there is this disengagement, and you have to figure out how to manage that problem.

BR: What is your stance on the use of the internet for non-academic purposes during the day?

HG: Well, I think that it's available for primarily academic purposes. If someone wants to enjoy looking at sports scores or some appropriate questions of curiosity during one's break time or lunch time, I don't have any trouble with that. I think that the use of YouTube, if it's not inappropriate material, if someone wants to see a clip of some recent film, musical or athletic event, and if it's during recreational time, then it's okay. I don't want to see students using it during study halls for non-academic purposes.

BR: You endorse student responsibility for proper internet usage, and this presupposes a responsible student body. Some would say that you're being overly idealistic.

HG: I think people are going to make mistakes, and I think that that's one of the reasons why we have the oversight of the tech department who can monitor all of the servers and use of the web. I think people are going to make mistakes. I don't think there's any failsafe internet block. The programs like NetNanny are simply walls that people can get around, and I think that people will try to get around them. I think that teaching people to be responsible instead of having these blocks, which are ineffective, is ultimately the best way to educate people. I'd rather assume that people with whom I work at MBA are going to make good decisions. There's

material on YouTube that can be helpful to the academic community, but there's also material that isn't appropriate. I think that it's better to let people make good decisions.

BR: Why not limit access to Facebook and games and other internet sites that aren't even remotely academic?

HG: Well, Facebook isn't entirely non-academic or not useful in terms of making contacts or communicating. I understand and agree that it's a social network. It may simply be like talking on a telephone to somebody. And yet, I think Facebook has a lot of good connectivity on it. And so, I think we have to build a community where people make good decisions about the uses of their resources and their time. I think it's also important to realize that people at lunch or at break will maybe send a note to someone through Facebook or a communication that may not be entirely academic but which is realistic in terms of how we live on a day to day basis. Also, I think its impractical for school to be blind to those realities.

BR: Some students will justify the use of the internet for non-academic purposes by claiming it's a form of "stress relief". How do you respond?

HG: You know, probably a little bit of that is true. I think that people play chess at school, and there's a lot of evidence that a game like chess, you may certainly make the argument, is much more beneficial than Call of Duty. I think we may have to make discretionary judgments from time to time. Maybe there are some game sites that are appropriate; maybe there are some that aren't. You heard me clarify, there is a difference between break or lunch time and study hall time. I'm not completely against it if someone checks his Facebook or gets on a more lenient site during a break. I think we may have to limit some game sites during the school day. One of the issues to raise here

is that being in school is somewhat akin to having a job. You have to wear a uniform and behave in a fashion that may be more limiting and more intrusive in terms of what some people like, but I think that's okay. But I'm open-minded enough to have those freedoms, but with those freedoms come some responsibilities.

BR: With more and more schools requiring computer usage, where do you see MBA in the future in regards to potentially mandating computer and internet use?

HG: I think that MBA is going to move to a system where there is some device. I'm not sure when or what that device will be, but I think that it will be attached to the world of textbooks and other information and how we manage the classroom. I think at this stage that the dependency on the computer or the price change from text books is not completely clear, and I think the textbook publishers have become afraid that they'll fall prey to the same problem that the music industry has, so they're protecting themselves and not all of the information is available on-line yet. I don't know when it's going to happen at MBA, but I think we'd be silly to not recognize that someday it will happen. And I hope that when it does, we'll be at an advantage in the dynamic between the teacher and student. In law school or medical school, students are often in their own world, disengaged from the material.

BR: How do you feel that the policy of internet regulation will adapt to that?

HG: I'd probably hope it'd be very similar to what we have now. I'm more a believer in giving students the freedom to make these decisions. I still think it'd have to be monitored. We may monitor it a little bit differently, but I believe in people having access to information. I also believe in people using their good judgment. Again, I'm open to having freedom, but with freedom comes responsibility.

WikiLeaks has more potential for harm than good

>> LEAKS FROM P2



Numerous cables and reports from ambassadors, soldiers, and other officials are the natural by-products of such endeavors. Yet, as citizens, we either feel no need to intrude on this traffic of information or trust our government to deal with it in a fitting manner.

Now, a portion of these records has been stripped of all secrecy. However, there are few true secrets that have actually been revealed. Rather, these leaks serve largely as confirmation that the American government is doing its job well.

The greatest issues stem from the conditions and implications of these documents' exposure rather than from any of their specific content.

I read a handful of the cables on *The New York Times* website that cover topics from enriched uranium in Libya to a bloody skirmish at an American outpost in Afghanistan. All of the files available through this newspaper have been redacted, meaning that the names of many at-risk individuals have been omitted.

As I browsed through just a fraction of the available records, I could not avoid a creeping sense of guilt. Intriguing as they are, these cables are the stolen property of the United States government. Many of

them end with warnings, in which their authors advise that the information be kept secret in order to protect certain people and avoid creating unnecessary uproar.

More important than the propriety of possession, though, is the peril that many individuals have suddenly been put in by the availability of these documents. Though the major newspapers with access to the files have produced censored versions of them, Wikileaks presents solely the raw data, a decision based on Assange's conviction that greater matters are at stake than personal safety.

Consequently, the Taliban is currently sifting through the source data for the names of informers, defectors, and other enemies, information that they will eventually find despite the sheer volume of files to scan. Certain Arab leaders who have covertly spoken out against Iran to the U.S. now run the risk of deteriorating relations with their unstable neighbor.

It may be entertaining to read about Muammar al-Gaddafi's "Ukrainian nurse," thrilling to scan a list of updates and commands from the heat of a battle in Afghanistan, or eye-opening to learn of potential nuclear deals between North Korea and Iran.

However, the availability of these

documents does not justify their use. Though questions have been raised regarding the necessity of the extent of our government's secrecy--many of the leaked files do not seem worthy of classification--the final judgment on such matters should be left to those in authority.

Diplomacy and war are very sensitive, convoluted subjects, and if the public suddenly has access to every grueling detail of each, we are likely as citizens to develop skewed views of the people and institutions that compose our government.

Though news of civilian deaths in Iraq may horrify us and diplomatic gossip sour our trust in this nation's leaders, we must remember that the shoes we fill are far different from those of the men and women fighting our battles or attempting to prevent them.

Julian Assange has not thrust the U.S. into a state of emergency, but he has unjustly removed things from their rightful place, jeopardizing lives in the process. This man's delusional mission has underscored the fact that not everyone ought to know everything. Ironically, his stolen revelations reinforce our belief that some things don't need to be revealed.

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Swordsmen score very well with MBA audience

By Thalia Malpomene
Staff Theater Viewer

Dr. Fuller gave us his best effort to date with his direction of *The Three Musketeers*. This show had it all: swift swordplay, dark encounters, witty lines, a fey king, distressed women, dukes and a cunning cardinal, 17th-century music, and a cast of what seemed like fifty actors.

The stage adaptation of the Dumas' novel is brilliant, as the play distills a long novel into a 2-hour reduction without losing too much of the sense of the characters or the plot. But, for this viewer the most wonderful aspect of the show was how Dr. Fuller and his intelligent cast produced such complex activity with such exquisite precision.

Mr. Nelson Berry, actor and Latin teacher, taught the various swordsmen their game, and the sword fights really quickened the pulse of the audience. When steel clanged against steel in the Paschall Theater, no one was dozing. The performers learned their sword play and acted it with considerable effectiveness. In one scene there must have been six swordfights going on simultaneously, and not one MBA student was stabbed for real. Amazing!

The only weak area of the entire show is the ease with which antagonists D'Artagnan and the eponymous musketeers become such tight buddies, when mere seconds earlier they were at each other's throats. This quick reconciliation did much, though, to preclude any unnecessary delay of the play.

The casting of the show was brilliant. Daniel Rundberg was just right as the ever-

plotting Cardinal Richelieu, Phillip Daniely played D'Artagnan with goodness and earnest simplicity, Andrew Wright brought the appropriate sanity and composure to his role as Capt. Treville, Rob Edwards showed English sensibility and ultimate restraint as the Duke of Buckingham, and, of course, Alex Floyd played two roles with apparent ease. His portrayals of Planchet, the loyal valet to D'Artagnan, and of King Louis XIII were certainly notable and did not lack French exaggeration.

The actors playing the three musketeers made the most out of their roles. Aaron Ardisson, Hunter Woolwine, and John Elam were willing to fight for any cause, and it was clear that death to them with honor surpassed a life of yielding. Better to break, than to bend.

But, back to Dr. Fuller's direction... In some scenes there was so much action filling the stage that it was a wonder no one crashed into another. That they did not bears witness



From set design and costumes to the choreography in the sword fights, *The Three Musketeers* was a hit.

to the director's keen eye for staging and the actors' receptivity to coaching. From scene to scene the audience saw action on top of the props, all over the stage, in front of the curtain, and, most effective, on the walkway at the foot of the fixed seats. This last was used for an encounter on a dark street.

The timing was just as good as the staging. The whole play just seemed right. All the actors involved, as well as the sound, lighting, costume, and set people, showed remarkable talent, commitment, and enthu-

siasm to put this show together. Producing this show was a complicated task, but the skills of all involved made the play seem real.

Dr. Fuller did an excellent job of making his actors believe what the Roman poet Ovid (43 BCE-17 CE) wrote, "The art is to conceal the art."

The audience loved the show. Even those who were not relatives or friends of the cast remarked about how well every aspect of the play was accomplished.

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>> ROO FROM P1

if you're not crazy about their music (I don't know how you couldn't be, but whatever), their raw passion will suck you in, and you'll still have a grand ole time. Plus, these guys won the Grammy for Album of the Year. They're at least doing something right.

Speaking of Grammy clout, let's talk about the Black Keys. These guys have vaulted from indie approval to national stardom with their blues-rock fusion album *Brothers*, which won two Grammys this year. Can this two-piece (they've added a couple musicians, so now it's really more like a four-piece, but still...) manage a crowd of 80,000? I think yes.

We move on now to those acts that haven't necessarily drawn major attention in the 2010-2011 period since last year's 'Roo but are still incredibly noteworthy. First thing's first: The Strokes. I may be biased simply because The Strokes are my favorite band of all time, but these guys saved rock and roll from Limp Bizkit and Nu-metal back in 2001. Their impact on the good rock and roll music these days is still being felt, and now, after a five-year hiatus, they're back. Their new album, *Angles*, comes out March 22nd and is highly anticipated among just about every noteworthy critic, and their

performance at Coachella last summer proves they've still got it.

My Morning Jacket, everyone's favorite rockin' jam band, has a new album coming out in the next few months and is sure to showcase a great set of both old and new sounds.

Let's also mention Buffalo Springfield, featuring Richie Furay, Neil Young, Stephen Stills, Rick Rosas, and Joe Vitale. These guys are old, yes, but they're legends. Some members of this group played at Woodstock. How cool is that? They were one of the defining bands of the 1960's music of the counterculture, and they're sure to bring a grand display of old school classic jam.

Let's also mention Robert Plant and Band of Joy. If we can't have all of Led Zeppelin, Plant is pretty good. He and his Band of Joy are sure to draw a big crowd. Other excellent old school acts to mention are Bootsy Collins & the Funk University, the Del McCrouy Band and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Loretta Lynn, and Wanda Jackson featuring Jack White.

Speaking of old school, there are plenty of up-and-coming acts who bring a righteous new spin on old sounds for a winning combination of nostalgic jams. These include Grace Potter and the Noc-

An aerial shot showing Bonnaroo's massive expanse in scenic Manchester, TN.

Photo courtesy of Taylor Crothers.

turnals, Widespread Panic, and Black Keys-approved Jessica Lea Mayfield.

Wanna dance or hear some bumpin' hip-hop? Try this group on for size: Girl Talk, Bassnectar, Pretty Lights, Lil' Wayne, Big Boi, Ratatat, and Chiddy Bang. Big Boi's most recent album gained widespread critical acclaim, and Girl Talk and Bassnectar are sure to provide the tunes for massive dance parties out on the farm. So, anyone who complains that Bonnaroo is nothing more than just a hipster breeding ground, he's wrong.

However, for those who are into the more indie scene, this year's 'Roo is replete with rising indie and alt-rock bands who will surely make some waves in the coming months. Most notable of these is Mumford and Sons, who, after a couple of Grammy nominations and growing worldwide recognition as the heroes of folk rock, are returning to Bonnaroo to play what will once again be a breathtaking performance (trust me, I've seen these guys live. They're unbelievable). Nerd rockers The Decemberists will be performing, along with psych-rockers Beirut, Wavves, Deerhunter, Explosions in the Sky, and Best Coast.

Bringing the soul power will be Ray Lamontagne, Amos Lee, and Florence + the Machine. And how can we forget about alt-rock legends like Primus, the Walkmen, and Portugal. The Man? I personally am really excited that young Chicago rockers Smith Westerns will be making an appearance. I saw these guys at The End back in January, and they've got some serious talent and potential.

I'm not done just yet though. Are you into the whole bluegrass and country scene? Bonnaroo's got some treats for you too. Look for Allison Krauss and Union Station featuring Jerry Douglas, along with Old Crow Medicine Show, Justin Townes Earle, and Deer Tick.

See what I'm saying? Bonnaroo has a little something for everybody! And there are many, many other great bands playing! So, that means those who are disappointed need to quit complaining and take a look once again at the unbelievable plethora of great music and art that will be coming to our neck of the woods in June. I'm stoked, and you should be, too. Over and out.

The Black Keys



The Strokes



Eminem



Arcade Fire



Looking back at DCOM's, our vanishing childhood

By Walton Macey
Staff Nostalgia Bringer



Brink is a favorite among juniors and seniors, particularly John Wyse, who went as far as to bestow upon the movie the distinct honor of naming his fantasy team after the team in the film.

Brink

Just about everyone born in 1992 or 1993 has seen this infamous, inline-skating competition premiering on the Disney channel. Back when it was cool to watch Even Stevens and the Famous Jett Jackson after school, every Friday night a new movie would premiere on the Disney Channel. *Brink* was the best of the DCOMs (Disney Channel Original Movies). The story involves two rival, street-skating teams, the X-Blades and the Soul Skaters (Team Pup n Suds). There's everything you could ever want in a movie: betrayal, comedy, brotherhood, face plants, skating tricks, one-on-one competition, and some over-the-top, inspirational one-liners. There is no one particularly famous in the movie, but that's the magical aspect of the story that dishes out lines like: "Baking a cake is a lot like friendship. You put a lot of work into it, and sometimes it doesn't turn out the way you thought it would, but it still tastes good". Those are some wise words of wisdom.

Heavyweights

My personal favorite DCOM stars a bunch of chubby, overweight campers and a menacing Ben Stiller. When I had to decide between going to the movies with girls and staying home to watch *Heavyweights*, I always chose the latter. The movie takes place at Camp Hope, which is a weight loss camp for overweight boys. Gerald Granger (funny name) is devastated that his parents are sending him to "fat camp." He is pleased to discover that the majority of the campers have masterfully smuggled in and hidden enough junk food to last the entire session and will try to gain weight instead of lose weight. Disaster strikes when the new, psychotic camp director, Ben Stiller, starts to treat the campers like prisoners. Gerald and his buddies try to defy and usurp Ben Stiller and his lackeys in every way possible. The only way to discover the greatness of this movie is to see it a minimum of 7 or 8 times. So GO! Watch it now!



All of you who are unsure of what to do over Spring Break need look no further - watch *Heavyweights* at least once a day, and you will have spent your time very wisely.

Other DCOMs

Jonny Tsunami- Surfer-boarder dude moves to Vermont and takes up snowboarding. He takes on the evil ski gang and falls in love with a skier. You gotta love it.

Smart House- Family wins super intelligent house which starts to take over the family.

Luck of the Irish- Popular, all-star boy loses his family's lucky coin to a crazy leprechaun and loses all of his

luck. One of the best DCOMs.

You Wish- Guy wishes he never had a brother, and he wakes up super popular without a little brother. Pretty darn good movie, says I.

Zenon the Zequel- About a girl, Zenon, saving her spacestation from aliens and whatnot. Itz zuper fun and Clazzic.

Don't Look Under the Bed- Legitimately scary movie about how imaginary friends eventually become

Bogeymen if you stop believing in them.

Motocrossed- Girl pretends to be a boy, so she can race dirt bikes. She shaves her head and falls in love with her rival. Sounds strange, but I won't

deny that I watched it.

Jumping Ship- Three brothers take a fishing boat off the Australian Coast where they face off against modern-day pirates.

The Bell Ringer likes these Top 7 YouTube videos

By Walton Macey
Staff Video Reviewer

1. "Five Year Old Wrestler Demolishes Opponents"

This kid is a beast. He sports a Mohawk and beats down on every kid he wrestles.

2. "Funny Kids Dance Battle"

Two kids show off their moves. Both do the same move over and over. But, the kid on the left wins, and he has a t-shirt that goes down to his knees.

3. "Fan Upstages Mascot"

Dunking contest gets real.

4. "Impossible Snowboard Trick"

Short and Sweet.

5. "TurBacon Epic Thanksgiving"

By *EpicMealTime*, all of their videos are ridiculous food constructions of the unhealthiest meals imaginable.

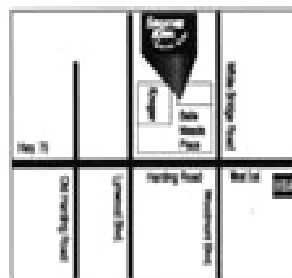
6. "GoodNeighborStuff movies"

If you haven't seen it, check it out. Guy tries to act as awkward as possible during interviews. So good.

7. "End zone angle of Trinity Game"

The crazy final seconds of the epic college football game.

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NFL lockout looming?

By Will McCaskill
Staff Insider

It's fall. School has begun. It is Sunday. The prospect of starting the week waking up at 6 a.m. is disheartening. But, what's more disheartening is that on your Sunday, as you ponder with dread the upcoming week, there is nothing to distract your thoughts of school and homework and early alarm clocks. By *nothing*, I mean no NFL football. Instead, you have to think even longer than normal about possibly doing homework and, then, not actually doing it. Even worse, what will you do after you've decided homework can wait until the next morning before school?

This is the specter that haunts, as the current Collective Bargaining Agreement in the NFL is set to expire Thursday, March 3rd, 2011 and a new agreement is hardly in the works. While word coming out of the meetings between owners and players is that a deal is being worked out and that a deal will get done in time for the start of the 2011-12 season, certainly creating peace of mind for all fans, insider information from reporters seems to suggest that a lockout could last well into September, the first month of the season.

Commissioner Roger Goodell is so confident a deal will get done that he has on record said that he will take a salary cut to \$1 if a deal is not reached before the expiration of the current CBA deal; chief negotiator Jeff Pash will also dock his pay to \$1. But, with only a week before the current deal expires, it would seem that Goodell and Pash will have to eat their words because their new salaries will not afford them food, since both sides in the discussions are simply too far apart.

I had the opportunity to interview

Kevin Mawae, retired, 16-year veteran of the NFL, former Tennessee Titan, and new faculty member of MBA, who is the current Player President of the National Football League Players' Association. He is present during each of the CBA meetings and represents the interests of all the players in the NFL. After meetings throughout the past year, Mawae says that players are preparing for the lockout. He feels, as do all the players, that the owners simply demand too much without giving much in return.

The owners opted out of the current agreement in 2008, which was signed in 2006 after the death of the executive of the NFLPA Gene Upshaw, because they felt the deal no longer made sense to them. The demands of the owners currently include an 18% salary cut for players, while removing two preseason games and adding two regular season games, making the wear and tear on players even greater. Also included is a plan to fix the rookie salary compensation problem, which the owners themselves created. The owners also do not plan to increase aid that goes toward helping retired players who have had health complications later in life.

In the eyes of Mawae and the NFLPA, owners are only to prevent profit margin decreases, not actual money loss. The NFL currently makes \$9 billion or more. Owners take \$1 billion, leaving still \$8 billion to split. The proposed 18% decrease for player salaries is approx. \$1 billion. As Mawae concludes, "They [owners] are asking players to play more games for less money, and no additional benefits in regards to player healthcare beyond their playing careers. Until the NFL can justify to the NFLPA why the financial pieces make sense, it is unlikely a deal will be done."

The future of the upcoming professional football season does not look good.



If the situation continues the way that it is headed, we could find ourselves without pro football when the fall comes around. *Graphic by Andrew Powell.*



Coach Mawae, current Player President of the NFL Players' Association, does not have an optimistic outlook on the bleak impasse. *Photo courtesy of ESPN.*

On the outside, to a person without some common sense, negotiations seem to be better than ever and at an all time high. But what really goes on in the conference rooms is a different story.

A true insider to the discussions, Kevin Mawae, is not optimistic.

Again I emphasize that the future is bleak. Our Sundays look to be more deplorable than ever.

MBA Mathletics dynasty claims 7th Statistics title

For the seventh consecutive year, Dr. Shack's Stats team rules over middle TN

By Anonymous Mathlete
Staff Undercover Mathmetician

MBA's top Mathletes returned last Thursday, March 3rd, to compete in the final round of the Interscholastic Math Contest at Ravenwood High School. This event was a closely contested match among more than a dozen of middle Tennessee's top-rated schools.

Going into the competition, MBA was positioned to win both Statistics and Algebra I. However, our Algebra II team had to put in a great performance in order to hold the slim, 4-point lead we had over David Lipscomb High. The boys pulled it off, and we brought home six trophies in the following categories:

- 1st place - Algebra I,
- 1st place - Algebra II,
- 1st place - Statistics
- 2nd place - Calculus
- 4th place - Pre-Calculus
- 1st place - Middle School Quiz Bowl

(won over MLK in the finals).

Key contributors at the Ravenwood High School contest were as follows: In Algebra I, Tony Ding and Alvin Zhang both scored a 100 and tied for 1st place at this event.

In Algebra II, Jake Macey, Tarun Malipeddi, and Sam Hurd all scored a 100 for a three-way tie for first and secured our 1st place trophy.

In Calculus, Nick Kohler scored a 96 and Joe Sherrer scored a 95 to give us a strong 2nd-place finish overall.

In Statistics, Hunter Tidwell and Da-

vid Arteaga tied for 3rd place, allowing MBA to win 1st place again this year.

This is the 7th consecutive year that MBA has won Statistics.

The Interscholastic Math League (IML) is an important event for the MBA math department. This contest allows us to benchmark ourselves against the other local schools on four different occasions and fulfill our mission of being scholars. It is important to note that we brought home more first place trophies than any other school, and our combined point total for entire event was 5 points higher than any other school.

Spring break does not define the man

By Scott Dalton
Staff Philosopher

Spring Break! Ahhh, these are the words that you think you will be echoing for the next 96 years of your life. Everyone knows that Spring Break is supposed to be “the time of your life,” or maybe even “the pinnacle of your existence.” Well, it’s not.

Oh, my gosh, I’m so sorry! I didn’t mean to ruin your hopes and dreams. If you are one of those guys who drives a two-door car that gets four miles to the gallon with some hunting sticker on your rear windshield with some sort of camouflage paraphernalia hanging in the rear-view mirror, you might want to tint your windows purple because I am about to humble you six ways to Sunday. No, seriously though, congrats on driving down to Seaside with your parents. You are such a bro! Don’t get me wrong here, I have made the trek to Seaside myself, but you have to realize the gravity of the humor in all of this.

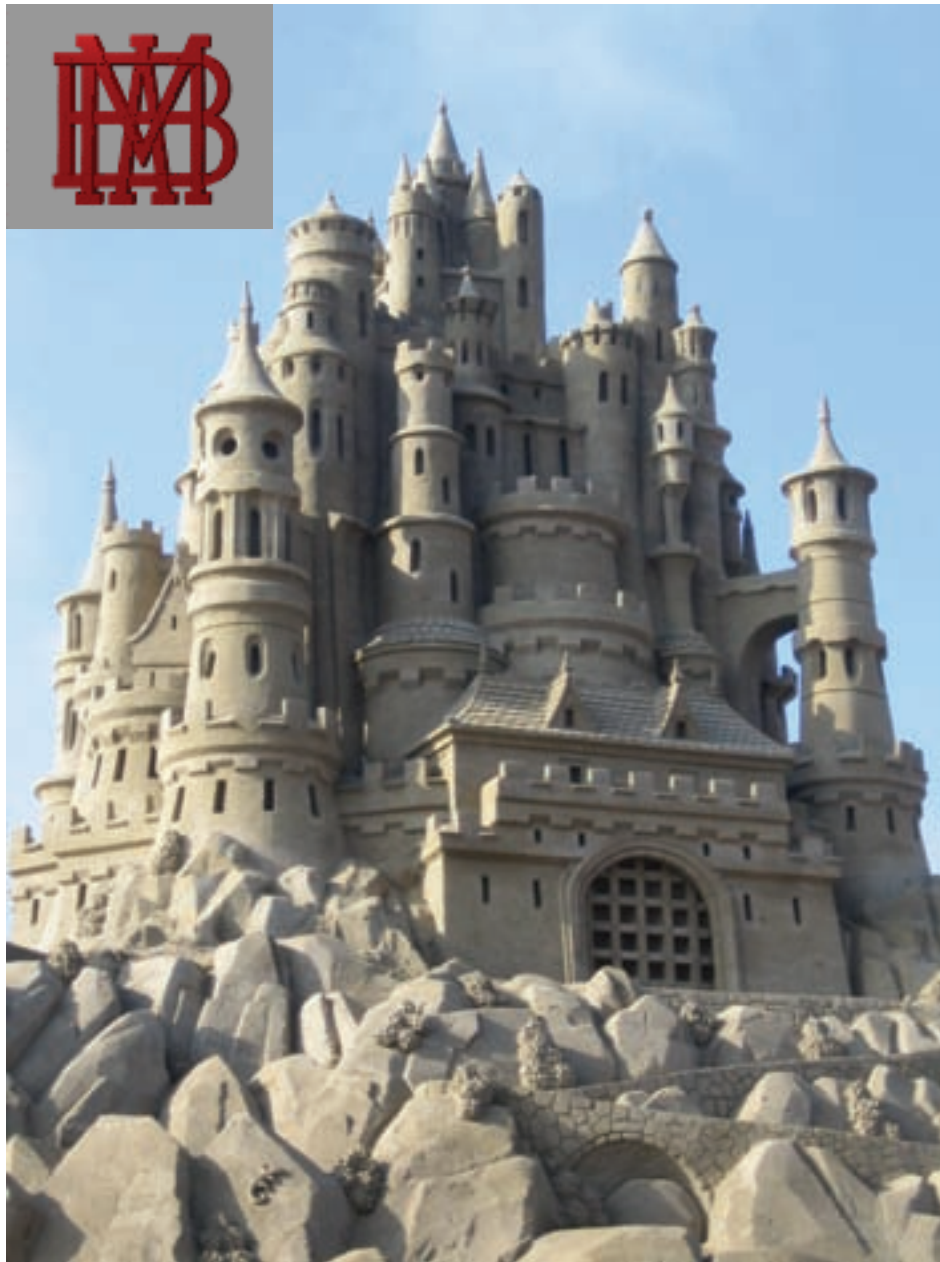
When it comes to Spring Break, seniors win, and the farther down on the totem pole you go, you should just go to the sugar shack and play with your legos.

8th graders, I love seeing you guys on Spring Break, it’s really awesome for your reputation. As I walk through the Seaside square and see you playing football in your tight Underarmour shirts, texting on your iphones, and huddling in a group next to some girls who are also huddled in a group roughly 6 feet from each other, is seriously like Christmas. Keep it up.

Freshman, you guys are in high school now, you are so old! Congrats on getting your permit. It makes me want to sing joyously when you drive around the beach with your cool shades you got on the streets in New York during your trip there this holiday season. It’s way cooler when you proceed to put on your emergency flashers and get out of the car with your parents as you switch driving duties and let them drive the car home because, let’s be honest, they aren’t capable of driving in traffic with so many youth around.

Sophomores, you can drive, so you should obviously drive 60 in a 25 in broad daylight because you are that much of a rebel! No, don’t worry about the police pulling you over. You are 16 and didn’t know any better. The cops are always cool with that excuse. Breaking the legal amount of people you can drive in your car is always a classic because that way when you get pulled over for running that stop sign you missed because you were checking out a chick that is way older than you, you get two tickets instead of one! Quantity, not quality, right guys?

Juniors, I’m so proud of your 12 o’ clock curfew. You are becoming such responsible young men. No, it’s perfectly acceptable to try to lie about your age to hang out with college kids. They love having you hang out with them, and they especially love how unbelievably annoying you are. That’s why they are having the party. Quick, take your shirt off because a flock of college girls are coming your way. Don’t worry about it, big guy, you can get them next time. It probably has nothing to do with the small blonde upper lip hairs that helped you so valiantly



The Hill moves to Florida this week. Watch out, beach, here comes the Big Red!

get into this party in the first place. People love you, you’re a junior!

Seniors, enjoy watching everyone else, have some laughs, take it easy, because you’re about to be living on your own. College is going to be a rip roarin’ good time. You don’t even have to go to class if you don’t want to. The parties will be outrageous, and you will have an awesome time. No one ever says anything about the classes because they probably don’t even exist! And, all of those crazy and wild college stories from adults are almost never stretched to appeal to a younger audience. All of those things definitely happened, and the guys telling them aren’t losers at all. The decisions you make in college absolutely won’t affect you in the long term. I mean, who needs a job that involves your using your brain. As long as you can breathe, the world is yours.

For the guy who isn’t going to Seaside, pat yourself on the back for doing something individual, creative, or possibly boring. I appreciate the fact that you aren’t giving into peer pressure and doing something that will have no long term benefit for you and will be almost no different from being in Nashville and going to school. I commend your efforts for going on a vacation where you are actually *on* a vacation (i.e. you aren’t next-door neighbors in a condo with the person you are actually next-door neighbors with at home). Keep up the

effort, big guy.

Boys, have fun this year on Spring Break wherever you go, because times they are a changin’, and you might not have much left (less than 60 years by national life expectancy standards), so do work, and remember, as the late and great movie *Heavyweights* (see page 14!) said, “Don’t put Twinkies on your pizza.”



John Wyse is SO HYPE that spring break is finally here!



Preston Evans gets ready for spring break while playing for team Scuba Doo. In slow motion. Yeah.



Pig “Mattison” Rieke puts on his sunglasses in an exotic location. He’s ready to go.



Rob Edwards peruses the skyline as he ponders what to do next with all his free time. Wally suggests that he watch *Heavyweights*.



Spanky says, “Don’t forget to bring a towel!”